Burien Business and Economic Development Partnership (BEDP)

Friday, October 10, 2008 7:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Burien Interim City Hall, Shared Conference Room 15811 Ambaum Blvd. SW

Members Present: Harvey Aulgur, Nancy Damon, David Elliott, Bob Ewing, Geri Fain, Kevin Fitz, Michael Goldsmith, Jim Hughes, Karen Lautermilch, Alice Madsen, Mark Minium

Excused Absentees: Doug Moreland, Rich Cosgrave, Jane Voget

Staff: Mike Martin, City Manager; Dick Loman, Economic Development Manager; Janet Stallman, Department Assistant

Guests: Maureen Hoffman, Burien Arts Commission; Councilmembers Sue Blazak and Kathy Keene; Patty Sader, Executive Director, Discover Burien

Call to Order: Meeting opened at 7:05 a.m. by Michael Goldsmith, Chair

Minutes from September 26, 2008 were approved as written.

Announcement:

Jim Hughes announced that Sal's Deli is getting their final inspection this morning from the Health Department on his newly constructed full kitchen. They will soon be open for full-service breakfast. Jim needs to get back to the restaurant this morning and can't stay for the meeting, but he invited members to a special gathering to be some of the first to try his breakfast and to provide feedback. Everyone congratulated Jim and wished him well.

Chair's Report – Michael Goldsmith

Michael mentioned that with the economy struggling right now, it would be a good time to check in with your neighbors to make sure everyone is doing okay.

City Manager Report – Mike Martin

Mike mentioned that on Monday we will be filing a Notice of Intent with the Boundary Review Board to proceed with annexation, since the new guidelines will have been approved today. He also mentioned that he had a good meeting with WSDOT this week to begin the process of getting the diamond interchange finished at Des Moines Memorial Drive. This is a long-term project, but it is getting off the ground now.

Monday night, staff presented a balanced two-year budget to Council. We are in good shape compared to other cities. The good news for us is that we're stable; for the moment we're in much better shape than many of our neighboring cities.

Economic Development Report – Dick Loman

Internally, we have been working on the Special Events Permit process. Dick will send the proposed document out to the small committee that agreed to help with this issue as soon as it's ready. The document is being reviewed by various department heads and the police before we are ready to have it reviewed by our Sub-committee. We continue to get medical businesses coming to Burien. When the business license lists come out each month, take notice. There seems to be at least always one medical services business on the list.

Discover Burien Report – Patty Sader

Discover Burien just finished the Farmer's Market yesterday. I will give a report at a later time on the specifics. We had a successful Ladies Night Out on October 4th. We sold pink bandanas to raise funds to support cancer research. Boo in Burien will be October 25th.

Burien Aesthetic Master Plan – Maureen Hoffman

Maureen Hoffman presented her vision of how a comprehensive aesthetic plan for Burien would be able to make Burien have a unique identification, and would allow us to project a certain feel when people came here to visit, or walked through town. She mentioned that an overall Logo, designated color palette, tag-line or slogan would go a long way toward establishing a place to start, and then it can be built upon from there. Maureen mentioned that graphic standards guidelines would be helpful to make sure that, for instance, the logo was only used in a certain way.

Some of her ideas included way-finding signage integration; banners; there could be artwork incorporated into existing needs such as bus shelters. The overall idea is that Burien would have a certain feel or would be making a certain statement. Maureen talked about how inclusion is important, and how that can be accomplished in banners, etc.

Mike Martin shared some of his thoughts regarding the idea. He was involved in some banners and artwork in Kent. He agrees that the idea of inclusion is important. He also believes it has to be done right. Timing is important, too, because we want to include North Highline residents in the process if we have a successful annexation. Mike also mentioned that this undertaking can be expensive.

There was discussion about re-rendering our current logo to make it more usable. This is a good temporary solution until the timing for development of a new logo is correct. Our current logo is difficult to resize without technical issues arising.

Visioning Discussion – Bob Ewing

Bob asked folks to take a look at the materials he passed out. He asked whether anybody had comments regarding the process the subcommittee has identified for moving forward. Basically, they will contact some individuals in the community and ask them to write their own Blog (such as the sample) of what Burien would look like in 2023. At some point, the wider community would be invited to participate. The group agreed to the method. Bob Ewing said that if you have names you'd like to suggest to him for having them write a version, to forward them to him by email. Also, if you are willing to contact anybody one-on-one from the list already identified, let him know.

Mark Minium commented that he thinks the next six months will be very tough. He's had bankers visit him to let him know they won't have money to lend for awhile. Business is down. Even repair work is being put off by people where they wouldn't have done so before.

Mike Martin mentioned that the City internally is discussing what might we be able to do to help the community. We are looking into latchkey programs at the Community Center for parents that might need extra hours to have second jobs, etc. We're talking about expediting permits so that construction loans aren't delayed. Mike asked the group if they have any other ideas of what local government might do to help with this situation.

Geri Fain mentioned that six out of ten children qualified for free or reduced lunch even before the economic downturn. She wanted to make sure everybody is aware of our community's demographics. Geri thinks they may see an increase in this number. The strike at Boeing is having an impact.

One idea is to keep the economy local. Patty Sader mentioned that a "Buy Local" promotion is in the works.

Round the Table

Nancy Damon: The Southwest King County Chamber Membership Luncheon today features a speaker from Holland America and what impact the cruise industry has had on Seattle.

Next Meeting October 24, 2008, 7:00 a.m. – INTERIM CITY HALL